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(Dennis M. Smid)

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Group Art Unit: 2614
Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-707

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: :
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Utsunomiya et al. :
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Application No.: 09/534,178 : Group Art Unit: 2614
:
:
Filed: March 24, 2000 : Examiner: M. W. Hoye
:
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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated
February 22, 2006, finally rejecting claims 1, 2, and 4-17,
please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as
follows: